IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of

Mail Stop Amendment

Christian Dachauer et al.

Group Art Unit: 3749

Application No.: 10/796,173

Examiner: JIPING LU

Filed: March 10, 2004

Confirmation No.: 3507

For:

CONTINUOUS THERMAL

TREATMENT OF BULK MATERIAL

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2004, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: